MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

1 February 1982

Israel

European MFO Participation Approval -- Jerusalem radio reported that after being briefed by Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir on clarifications received from U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, the Cabinet approved the four European countries' participation in the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO).

Terrorist Penetration From Jordan -- Jerusalem television reported a meeting with military correspondents at which Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan recounted a penetration by a Fatah terrorist squad from Jordan on 28 January. Three of its members planted U.S.-made mines of a type used by the Jordanian Army near two roads in the Mehola area and then returned to Jordan, he said. Three others, according to Eytan, intended to enter the heart of Judaea and Samaria to carry out terrorist acts, but were captured by the IDF on 30 January.

Citing an interview with Jerusalem television's Arabic service, IDF radio reported that Shamir stated that Israel regards the infiltration as a violation of the cease-fire agreement signed last July, and that Israel will take measures to prevent repetition of such actions. The minister said Israel will explain to the Jordanian Government that its measures to prevent infiltration have been insufficient or ineffective.

MA'ARIV reported that Prime Minister Menahem Begin held a special consultation with Shamir and Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon on the renewed efforts to carry out terrorist acts. According to Jerusalem sources cited by the paper, some of the equipment discovered in the terrorists' possession is of U.S. make and the source of supply is Saudi Arabia.

PLO on Penetration Incident

According to the clandestine Voice of Palestine radio, a responsible PLO military spokesman asserted in connection with the Israeli Chief of Staff's 30 January press conference that the Palestinian revolution and the joint forces confirm their adherence to the cease-fire in southern Lebanon and regard references to an alleged PLO breach of the cease-fire as preparation for anticipated Zionist aggression against southern Lebanon. A commentary by the same radio stressed that the cease-fire does not contradict the PLO's right to conduct military operations from anywhere other than southern Lebanon.

Another Voice of Palestine broadcast reported "heroic battles" with the Israeli Army at the eastern borders of 'occupied Palestine' on 28 and 30 January and claimed that the martyr Abu ash-Sha'r unit inflicted many casualties. Citing a Palestinian military spokesman, another radio report said the unit engaged "thousands of soldiers, helicopters and fighter planes" in a 5-hour battle and successfully carried out its plan.

Egypt

Mubarak Tour -- MENA reported that President Husni Mubarak flew to Italy on 30 January on the first leg of his tour of Europe and the United States. The same evening, he began talks with Italian leaders on bilateral relations and Middle East issues, Cairo radio reported. The radio also provided live coverage of Mubarak's arrival in France on 1 February.

Comment on Autonomy, U.S. Role -- AFP reported that Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said in Rome that the autonomy negotiations are practically at a standstill. MENA reported that in a statement published by MAY, 'Ali said that if a new peace formula transcending Camp David and acceptable to the Palestinians should emerge, "there is nothing to prevent us from accepting it as long as Israel will accept it.

Noting that Egypt has encouraged the United States to contact Palestinian West Bank mayors, a 29 January Cairo radio commentary said that if U.S. approval of a dialogue with the PLO is conditional on the latter's recognition of Israel, the United States should urge Israel to take confidence-building measures toward the PLO to encourage it to take a positive initiative toward Israel. Another radio commentary asked rhetorically why the United States is not prepared to negotiate with the Palestinians, with whom it has no direct conflict, when it has apparently been holding talks with Cuba, with which it has a direct major conflict.

Border With Libya -- Cairo radio noted that the Egyptian-Libyan border would be briefly opened on 1 February to enable Egyptians working in Libya to return for a vacation.

Followup, Reaction to Jordanian King's Initiative

Amman radio broadcast an appeal by the Jordanian Armed Forces General Command asking citizens to volunteer to fight in support of Iraq and instructing recruitment centers to accept enlistees. The radio also reported that the Cabinet decided to form a committee headed by the prime minister to supervise implementation of King Husayn's initiative. The Cabinet decided to open a special account in Jordan's Central Bank to receive donations for the Al-Yarmuk forces that are to assist Iraq, and Prime Minister Mudar Badran announced the Cabinet's decision to reserve employment and financial rights for all civil servants who volunteer.

Citing a Jordanian military source, Monte Carlo radio reported that hundreds of Jordanian volunteers have already reported to recruitment centers. Citing Iraqi National Assembly Speaker Na'im Haddad, the radio said in another report that Morocco and the YAR will also send volunteers to assist Iraq.

Amman television and the newspaper AR-RA'Y reported thousands of cables and phone calls expressing total support for the king's initiative. Without mentioning the king's move, Doha QNA said its correspondent in Amman learned that a high-level Jordanian delegation will visit Baghdad within the next 2 days to discuss with senior Iraqi officials ways to bolster bilateral cooperation.

According to Amman radio, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn telephoned King Husayn to thank him for his initiative. Baghdad INA cited an AL-JUMUHIRIYAH editorial which stated that Iraq looks forward to the participation of Arab volunteers not because it is in need of fighters but because Arabs must realize the need for adopting a unified position. The paper contrasted Jordan's "noble and responsible stand" with the actions of the "so-called Arabs" who support and assist Khomeyni's regime.

According to Tehran radio, Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Ahmad 'Azizi called King Husayn's announcement "an open declaration of war by Jordan against Iran." "Azizi also said the Jordanian move enjoys U.S. support and is part of the U.S. objective to "increase pressure on Iran" via "reactionary Arab regimes." Another report by the radio cited a speech to the Majlis by its speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, who said that King Husayn's move does not present a military problem for Iran since Jordan had conspired with Iraq even before the war began and since Jordan and other Arab countries would have already sent their volunteers to the war if they had any.

As evidence that the move does not pose a military problem, Hashemi-Rafsanjani referred to the formation of the "Golan battalion." According to a Tehran IRNA report, Hashemi-Rafsanjani explained after a Supreme Defense Council meeting that many requests had come from Muslim Iraqi exiles and repentant Iraqi POW's to be organized to "fight infidelity." The council thought that since Iran is powerful enough on its own fronts, it does not need such a force, and hence it decided to dispatch the volunteers as a "Golan battalion" to Syria to be used as Syria saw fit in the battle against Israel.

SANA carried a statement issued by a Syrian "responsible source" saying that King Husayn's "theatrical announcement" is absolutely worthless and does not change the balance of power. The source added that the announcement shifts attention away from the basic battle against the "Zionist enemy," and he expressed the Arab citizen's wonder about the purpose of volunteering to fight Iran when the Jordanian border is closed to Fedayeen who want to fight Israel. Expressing Syria's belief that Husayn's announcement is merely an "attempt to soak up the sweeping public vengeance against the Jordanian regime, which is seeking to provoke Syria," the source condemned Husayn's move and said it will only benefit the Arab nation's enemies.

In a statement to JANA reported by Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland radio, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi said he expected King Husayn to call for the liberation of Palestine, not for fighting Iran. Al-Qadhdhafi contended that the United States is riding the Arab horse and has begun to lead it in a direction which serves U.S. and Zionist aims. Arab nations threatedned by the Zionist enemy have begun to exchange the real enemy for another; the proper Arab policy is for all rifles to point at the Zionist enemy and leave Iran alone, he said. Al-Qadhdhafi added that Libya opposed the Iraqi-Iranian war from the start and rejects the occupation by either side of any part of the other's territory.

Jordan

According to the Israeli paper DAVAR, Jordan has concluded a 100 million pound sterling arms deal with the Soviet Union for the purchase of SAM missiles, including SAM-8's, which will be stationed on the border with both Syria and Israel.

Syria

Peace Principles -- Beirut radio reported that in an interview published by the Beirut weekly MONDAY MORNING, Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad defined Syria's three principles for peace in the Middle East as: first, Israel's complete withdrawal from Arab territories occupied in 1967, including Arab Jerusalem; second, confirmation of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights under the leadership of the PLO as well as their right to return and build an independent Palestinian state on Palestinian territory; third, the ending of the state of war between the Arabs and Israel.

Denials of Coup -- In an interview with the Paris magazine AL-MUSTAQBAL, Iskandar Ahmad denied Western media reports of a coup attempt in Syria, ascribing such stories to wishful thinking. His interviewer said he had learned that no more than 18 officers had been arrested, not as a result of a coup attempt but because of "whispers" on their part that had become known to the authorities.

According to Monte Carlo radio, a Syrian Government spokesman denied a report by the Kuwaiti paper AL-QABAS that former Air Force Commander Maj Gen Naji Jamil was recently executed for involvement in the alleged coup attempt. Damascus television subsequently noted that Naji Jamil recently participated in an As-Sa'iqah meeting.

Denial on Mediation -- In his AL-MUSTAQBAL interview, Information Minister Iskandar Ahmad denied that Syria has been asked to mediate in the Iran-Iraq war, asserting that circumstances are unsuitable for any such mediation.

Lebanon

Voice of Palestine reported that the clashes in southern Lebanon between the Amal movement and other organizations ended after Fatah units moved into the tense areas in a peacekeeping role in accordance with decisions made by the coordination committee for the south on 30 January. Beirut radio said 7 persons had been killed and 25 wounded in the clashes; Voice of Lebanon radio later reported 33 persons killed and 57 wounded.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Ministers' Meeting Postponement -- Citing sources close to the Arab League, AFP reported that at Syria's request a special Arab foreign ministers meeting set for 7 February to discuss Israel's "annexation" of the Golan Heights has been postponed for the third time and rescheduled for 12 February. The UN General Assembly meeting on the Golan issue was given as the reason for the delay.

Hassan on Fes Summit, Egypt -- At a Paris press conference reported by Rabat radio, Morocco King Hassan II expressed the hope that Egypt would return to the Arab fold and participate at the Arab summit in Fes because an Arab world without Egypt is incomplete. The king announced that the summit would be reconvened before this summer, and said it would adopt Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's peace plan as a working document.

Sudan

SSU Affairs -- SUNA reported on 30 January that President Ja'far Numayri issued a decree appointing 78 new members to the popular committee for developing the work of the Sudanese Socialist Union (SSU). On the same day, Numayri addressed the committee's first meeting, Omdurman radio reported, stressing that dialogue within the SSU is necessary and that disagreement is legitimate. However, Numayri added that any attempt to set up blocs inside or outside the SSU is an unforgivable crime. According to SUNA, Numayri also told the committee that Libyan leader Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and the Iraqi Ba'th Party have been attempting to undermine Sudan's unity.

Iraq

Monte Carlo radio reported that Iraqi Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf announced in Singapore that Iraq has invited Iran to attend the nonaligned summit conference, due to be held in Baghdad in September.

Iran

Comment, Reports on Amol Distrubances -- In a Friday sermon reported by Tehran radio, Majlis Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that 60 rebels were killed in 1 day during the disturbances last week in the northern city of Amol. Claiming that residents of the city assisted security forces against the insurgents, he said "30 of the best people in Amol" were killed in the fighting. Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni likewise commended the inhabitants of Amol in a 30 January speech broadcast by Tehran radio. He said the rebels had been proved wrong in their belief that the north is 100 percent against the Islamic Republic. However, the clandestine Free Voice of Iran radio spoke of a "people's revolt" in the city and said that 3 days after the clashes, life had not returned to normal and parts of the city remained in rebel hands. According to IRNA, 10 captured rebels were subsequently executed.

DAILY REPORT

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PAKISTAN'S SHAHI BEGINS TALKS IN NEW DELHI

Arrival Statement

BK291608 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Jan 82

[Excerpts] Pakistan Foreign Minister Agha Shahi expressed the hope on arrival in New Delhi today that his talks with Indian leaders would lead to greater mutual confidence. Talking to newsmen at the airport he said he would hold initial discussions on the possible conclusion of a nonagression pact.

Asked how long it would take to conclude a no-war pact and whether he had brought a written draft, he replied that the two countries must first ascertain if they can bring their viewpoints closer. He thought there were exaggerated reports about the number of aircraft to be received by Pakistan and, therefore, a mutual commitment to nonaggression would allay Indian apprehension. The two countries could conclude a no-war pact finally, but how long the process would take he could not say.

Agha Shahi is accompanied by Lt Gen Yaqub Khan, Pakistan ambassador to France; Lt Gen K.M. Arif, chief of staff to the Pakistan president; and four top officials of the Foreign Ministry.

Opening of Talks

BK300848 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 30 Jan 82

[Text] The first round of India-Pakistan talks on bilateral matters began in New Delhi today. Pakistan Foreign Minister Agha Shahi called on External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao for the first formal discussions. The meeting lasted about half an hour.

Later, the two ministers were joined by high-level delegations of the two countries for the first plenary session.

Meeting With Rao

BK301620 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 Jan 82

[Text] Foreign ministers of India and Pakistan today took up discussion of the proposed nonaggression pact at their first formal round of talks in New Delhi. At a joint press briefing newsmen were told that some of the misgivings and suspicions that had been voiced were clarified. Exchange of views on the subject is to be continued tomorrow.

External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao emphasized at the talk that India had taken the Pakistani offer seriously. It would be as happy as Pakistan if the two countries arrive at a satisfactory formulation for a nonaggression pact.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Agha Shahi on his part reaffirmed his country's sincerity in making the proposal and its desire to further normalize bilateral relations.

The two foreign ministers also reviewed the important international developments that had taken place since their meeting in Islamabad last June and also the situation in the region. They agreed that deterioration in the international security environment has heightened the need for efforts by the two countries for a better mutual understanding. On several issues, including the brazen Israeli policy of expansionism, their positions were similar.

The two ministers also referred in particular to the situation in Afghanistan, west Asia, the Gulf region, the European security conference and the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks.

Senior officials of the two countries met separately to discuss various bilateral matters. An Indian spokesman said these could include agreements on trade, postal services, the railways, shipping, cultural exchanges, shrines and the question of missing Indian defense services personnel.

Agha Shahi first met Narasimha Rao for about half hour. He was assisted by Lt Gen Yakub Khan, Pakistan's ambassador to France; Lt Gen K.M. Arif, chief of staff to President Ziaul Haq; and Pakistan Ambassador in New Delhi Abdul Sattar. Foreign Secretary R.D. Sathe and C.R. Gharekhan, a joint secretary in the External Affairs Ministry, were with Narasimha Rao. They were later joined by senior officials from the two sides for a plenary session. Indian Ambassador in Islamabad Natwar Singh and Additional Secretary in External Affairs Ministry S.K. Singh also took part in the discussion. The second plenary session is to be held tomorrow.

Agha Shahi called on President Sanjiva Reddy and Vice President Hidayatullah in the afternoon.

Gandhi Assurances

BK301600 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 30 Jan 82

[Text] The prime minister has declared that India will never attack Pakistan whether there is a no-war pact or not. In an hour-long press conference with the visiting Pakistani journalists in New Delhi today, Mrs Gandhi said India's attitude toward Pakistan's offer of a non-aggression pact is positive. However, such an agreement cannot be reached at one go. She appealed to the Pakistani leaders to try the path of friendship with India for a change as they had adopted every other method earlier and failed. She did not agree that unless the Kashmir question is solved there can be no normal relations between the two countries.

Emphasizing the need to create a proper atmosphere, the prime minister said even less important issues cannot be solved otherwise.

Responding to a correspondent's suggestion that a summit meeting between her and President Ziaul Haq might help, Mrs Gandhi said it would be premature to think of it. Enough preparatory work should be done. She hoped that the current talks between the foreign ministers of the two countries would mark a turn for the better and create an atmosphere of understanding and trust.

A reporter expressed surprise at the fear of India that Pakistan, a much smaller nation, poses a threat to the security of India. Mrs Gandhi pointed out that India had been repeatedly attacked by Pakistan in the past and a part of our territory in Kashmir is still under Pakistani occupation. The acquisition of sophisticated weapons by Pakistan had increased the tension in the region. During the last 10 years Islamabad had doubled its military strength while India had not done so. This has added to India's economic burden. Pakistan has always one country or the other to bail it out, but when India buys arms we have to pay the full price, which strains our economy, she said.

A correspondent asked whether India took note of Pakistan's need in the nuclear field. Mrs Gandhi recalled her statement in Parliament that India took note of Pakistan's assurance about the peaceful purpose of its nuclear program.

Replying to a question on the Afghanistan problem, Mrs Gandhi reiterated India's stand that the Soviet Union should withdraw from that country. But that can be done only if all outside help to the rebels stopped. Pakistan, she said, has derived the maximum advantage by Soviet presence in Afghanistan and received substantial economic aid and sophisticated armaments from some countries.

A correspondent criticized India's recognition of the Heng Samrin government in Kampuchea and said New Delhi has been isolated on this issue. The prime minister said India's stand is based on its own assessment. One cannot be guided by mere numbers. She recalled that India was in a minority on the question of American presence in Vietnam but ultimately New Delhi's policy had been vindicated.

In reply to a question, Mrs Gandhi said her government will give all encouragement to the Muslim community in India to preserve and promote their cultural heritage.

In her opening statement, she told the Pakistani journalists that the government and people of India wished Pakistan well. India feels very strongly that the greater security lies in using most of our resources for the economic well-being of our people rather than to increase arms and armaments.

AFP on Gandhi Statements

BK301019 Hong Kong AFP in English 1009 GMT 30 Jan 82

[Text] New Delhi, 30 Jan (AFP) -- India today offered to sign a treaty of friendship with Pakistan and gave a categorical assurance it will never attack its rival neighbor.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi told a group of Pakistani journalists covering on-going Indo-Pakistani ministerial-level talks here that India did not want a war with Pakistan.

"No-war pact or not, I can assure you that India will never attack Pakistan," she said.

Mrs. Gandhi expressed India's willingness to sign a friendship treaty with Islamabad in response to a questioner who had referred to the Indo-Soviet treaty of friendship.

"Our treaty with the Soviet Union is just what it says. It is a friendship treaty. We are willing to have a friendship treaty with you," she asserted.

Welcoming Pakistani Foreign Minister Agha Shahi's current visit here for talks on a proposed bilateral no-war pact and on other bilateral matters, Mrs. Gandhi voiced the hope that progress would be made at the talks.

"But in international relations all the results are not achieved in one round," she said.

Mrs. Gandhi's offer and assurance come at a time when New Delhi and Islamabad are trying to find amicable ways to solve their bilateral disputes and to explore prospects for a no-war or non-aggression pact.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Agha Shahi, who arrived here yesterday, had 30-minute informal talks with his Indian counterpart P.V. Narasimha Rao last night. They began their formal talks here today.

Mrs. Gandhi recalled that during the 1972 Simla summit between her and the late Pakistani Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto, no agreement had been in sight until the very last minute.

"It looked as though no agreement was possible. In the last few minutes, the agreement did come," Mrs. Gandhi said.

"Any agreement must take account of national interests, peace and security," she added.

"What [as received] don't you try the path of friendship with India and see the results..? You have tried everything except friendship," she told the visiting Pakistani journalists.

On the disputed Kashmir region, Mrs. Gandhi said "Pakistan is sitting on our land", having "invaded" Kashmir in 1947. "But for the fight put up by the people of Kashmir we could not have saved it," she added.

"Kashmir could only be one of the many reasons that have strained Indo-Pakistani relations... The two countries have to find areas of agreement and enlarge them," she said.

India, she noted, felt very strongly that the greatest security lay in using most of the region's resources to advance the economic well-being of the people rather than to increase arms.

Talks Resume

BK311241 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 31 Jan 82

[Text] The foreign ministers of India and Pakistan resumed their talks in New Delhi today. A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry said Narasimha Rao and Agha Shahi met without aides. The officials of the two countries are continuing their discussions on bilateral matters.

Agha Shahi is to call on Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi today.

Agreement on Joint Commission

BK311608 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 31 Jan 82

[Text] India and Pakistan have decided to set up a joint commission to deal with bilateral matters. The proposal was made by Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi to Pakistan Foreign Minister Agha Shahi when he called on her in New Delhi this afternoon. Mr Shahi accepted the proposal. The Pakistan minister met Mrs Gandhi after two more rounds of talks with Minister for External Affairs Narasimha Rao in New Delhi today. They discussed mainly the proposed non-aggression pact. Spokesmen of the two sides said at a joint press briefing that the ministers have been discussing the points made in the aide-memoires exchanged between the two countries recently on the subject. India sent her communication on the 24th of last month and Pakistan sent its on the 12th of this month. The spokesmen declined to spell out the points under consideration arguing that the discussions are still continuing. They said the question of a treaty of friendship did not figure in today's talks between the two foreign ministers.

Today's discussion between Agha Shahi and Narasimha Rao lasted 2 and a half hours in two sessions. The first session was without any aides. During the second round they were joined by their principal advisers. They are meeting again tomorrow morning. Agha Shahi has put off his departure tomorrow by about 4 and 1/2 hours. The plenary session which was scheduled for today will now be held tomorrow. Officials of the two sides will also report to the plenary session. They have been discussing various bilateral matters.

At his meeting with the prime minister, Agha Shahi conveyed President Ziaul Haq's greetings to her. He reiterated Pakistan's resolve and desire to live in peace with India and to promote mutual trust and confidence. Welcoming the assurances, Mrs Gandhi told Agha Shahi that India regards the stability and strength of its neighbors as part of its own strength. We wish Pakistan all the best. She also asked him to convey her warm regards to Gen Ziaul Haq.

About the proposed joint commission, the Indian spokesman said its structure, mandate and the periodicity have to be carried out. But it is agreed that the commission will meet periodically to deal with bilateral questions. The All-India Radio correspondent says India has joint commissions with several countries, mostly at the ministerial level. The commissions meet from time to time to sort out various matters. The official spokesman declined to say at what level the proposed commission with Pakistan would be established. But, he said, past experience in this regard would be taken into account.

AFP Report

BK311403 Hong Kong AFP in English 1356 GMT 31 Jan 82

[Text] New Delhi, 31 Jan (AFP) -- Differences concerned India's insistence that Pakistan should not refer to bilateral issues, including the Kashmir dispute, in international forums and adherence to the principles of the Nonaligned Movement and the Simla Agreement signed by the two countries in 1972.

India has also referred to the arms race provoked in the subcontinent by the U.S. decision to supply sophisticated weapons, including F-16 jet fighter bombers, to Pakistan and the possibility of Pakistan being drawn into the strategic orbit of the United States.

The spokesman said the fact that the two ministers were dealing with specific points indicated that their clarifications on "misgivings and suspicions" were over.

Officials of the two delegations also met separately twice today to continue their discussions on other bilateral matters like trade, tourism, transit, communications and cultural exchange.

They would submit their recommendations to the ministers tomorrow morning, the spokesman said.

Answering questions, the Indian spokesman said Mrs Gandhi's offer yesterday to sign a friendship treaty with Pakistan did not come up in her talks with Mr Shahi today.

Mrs Gandhi made the offer while talking to Pakistani journalists accompanying Mr Shahi.

Vajpayee on Talks

BK311256 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 31 Jan 82

[Text] Bharatiya Janata Party President Atal Bihari Vajpayee has welcomed the prime minister's offer of a friendship and cooperation treaty with Pakistan. In a prepared statement at a press function at Kanpur today, he said he does not think the offer has been made in a casual manner or is aimed at securing propaganda.

Referring to the offer of a no-war pact by the Pakistan president, he said it is negative in phraseology and meaning. He said what the people of the two countries needed is a positive treaty of friendship and cooperation.

Call for POW Exchange

BK311451 Hong Kong AFP in English 1413 GMT 31 Jan 82

[Excerpt] New Delhi, 31 Jan (AFP) -- Six opposition members of Parliament have urged the foreign ministers of India and Pakistan, now holding talks here for a proposed no-war pact, to find a mechanism for the exchange of prisoners of war between the two countries.

In a statement issued here, the MP's, belonging to Lok Dal Party of former Prime Minister Charan Singh, described as "vague and unsatisfactory", the denial issued by the Pakistan Embassy in New Delhi recently that there were any Indian POW's in that country.

The statement pointed out that the POW's were still languishing in Pakistani prisons, that they provided "inconvertible evidence" and that they could not be dismissed off hand.

The MP's said it was only through a solution of such outstanding problems that a climate of trust could be generated between the two countries. Such issues, they said, if left unresolved, could prove to be stumbling blocks in the way of progress towards normalisation of relations.

Statement Issued

BK010840 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 1 Feb 82

[Text] Officials of India and Pakistan are to meet in Islamabad by the end of this month to continue their exchange of views on the proposed non-aggression pact. This was announced in a joint statement by the foreign ministers of the two countries at a news conference in New Delhi today. They agreed that the conclusion of a non-aggression pact between the two countries will be a positive contribution to peace and stability in the region.

Both India and Pakistan emphasized the need to maintain bilateral contacts on a regular basis at various levels. Pakistan welcomed the proposal made by India to set up a joint commission to review and promote India-Pakistan relations. The Indian side welcomed the announcement by the Pakistan foreign minister to open some more shrines in that country to Indian citizens. The shrines are (Kathakraj) in Punjab and (Hayat Khitafi) in Sind.

Agha Shahi extended an invitation to Narasimha Rao to visit Pakistan. The date of the visit will be decided later. Agha Shahi is returning to Islamabad this afternoon.

Further on Statement

BK011030 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 1 Feb 82

[Text] India and Pakistan have reached a measure of mutual understanding on a number of elements for the proposed non-aggression pact. Discussions are to continue at the level of foreign secretaries during the current month for an exchange of views on the contents of the proposed agreement. This has been stated in a joint press statement released at the end of 4 days of talks between Pakistan Foreign Minister Agha Shahi and External Affairs Minister Narasimha Rao in New Delhi. The statement was issued at a crowded news conference before Agha Shahi left for Pakistan. Asked whether a time frame had been fixed for the conclusion of the proposed pact, Agha Shahi said that the next round of talks will be held some time in the middle of this month. Progress on the talks will determine how quickly the proposed agreement can be concluded.

The foreign ministers, who discussed in detail the proposed agreement of non-aggression and non-use of force, noted with satisfaction that the air has been sufficiently cleared to facilitate specific consideration of elements which could constitute its substance. They agreed that conclusion of such an agreement would make a positive contribution to peace and stability in the region. Both sides recognized the need to maintain bilateral contacts on a frequent and regular basis at various levels.

Pakistan welcomed Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi's proposal to establish a joint commission to review and promote bilateral relations. The Pakistan foreign minister said that two more shrines, namely (Kathakraj) in Punjab and (Hayat Khitafi) in Sind, would be open to pilgrims from India.

Regarding missing defense personnel, they agreed to make fresh attempts to locate them.

Mr Agha Shahi said the people of Pakistan, regardless of their political convictions, are in favor of a no-war pact with India. But as he had stated in Islamambad before coming to New Delhi, his discussions with Mr Rao were of an initial nature. Such important matters fundamental to the relations between the two countries would require extended discussions to bring about a meeting of minds, he said.

HUSAYN CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS AGAINST IRAN REPORTED

GF300726 Tehran IRNA in English 1620 GMT 29 Jan 82

[Text] Tehran, Jan 29 (IRNA-ISLAMIC REPUBLIC NEWS AGENCY) (ex-PARS) -- King Husayn of Jordan announced on Thursday that his country was engaged in forming a force of volunteers to fight alongside the Iraqi aggressors against the Ialamic Republic of Iran. In a speech broadcast on television he also implicitly omitted that the Iraqis were not able to resist the Islamic forces alone and added that he himself would command the new force.

In another related event, the French news agency AFP reported from Damascus that AL-BA'TH, the organ of the ruling party in Syria, condemned the establishment of the force by Jordan and said that King Husayn was actually neglecting the Zionist threat by doing so. Also other news agencies reported from Beirut that Iraqi mass media and officials had welcomed King Husayn's proposal while saying that this would create a ray of hope for the Iraqi regime.

Meanwhile the British newspaper, THE TIMES, while reporting on King Husayn's speech, said that this decision by Jordan showed the hopeless position of Iraq in its imposed war against Iran.

Rafsanjani Chides Husayn

LD311232 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 31 Jan 82

[Text] The Islamic Majlis held an open session today which began with recitations from the holy Koran and was chaired by Speaker Hashemi-Rafsanjani. At this session, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani delivered the following speech:

[Begin recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. During the past 2-3 days a few important developments have happened in connection with our revolution in the region which I think the Islamic Majlis and the honorable deputies should adopt a clear stance toward. It is now some time that the powerful political faces representing the policies of the United States in the region have been very active; for weeks they have been travelling around Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco and other countries of the Gulf region.

The Western press has prepared the ground as well and the results of these activities have manifested themselves in ways that are very hopeful for our Islamic revolution and very despairing for our enemies. These developments, in our view, originate from our victories in Abadan and Bostan. The enemy realised that the Iranian Islamic revolution has fortified the Muslim revolutionaries of the world. The Western press has acknowledged the victories of Islam and has warned the smaller countries in the region of the dangers and the regional cooperation council has increased its activities. It seems that they have come to a deadend in their discussions, reviews and conspiracies; this is quite evident from certain events.

One is the remarks made by the king of Jordan and confirmed by the king of Morocco; another event is the expulsion of the oppressed Muslims of Iraq; yet another is the conspiracies hatched by internal counterrevolutionaries in Amol and Kordestan. Our international and external enemies put their forces together and these were the results: In Kordestan and Amol we witnessed the incidents ourselves. The expulsion of our dear Iraqi brothers and sisters was a show of force to the nation of Iraq and was intended to put out the flames which will soon start inside Iraq. We hope that our future operations will not result in more of such measures by Saddam to intimidate the people of Iraq, and hopefully our operation will stop this kind of intimidation.

Now, about the remarks made by King Husayn. It seems that a sign of the defeat of conspiracies hatched by the United States is that it has used an already known element whose comments do not have any effect other than weakening the [word indistinct]. Everyone was aware of the fact that King Husayn stood beside Saddam and everyone knew that King Husayn was a close friend of the shah and an enemy of Iran.

It is an honor for Iran that King Husayn has volunteered to command the forces to fight Iran. There is nothing more pleasant for us than to be in a war situation with Jordan's Husayn. It would indeed be a battle worthy of fighting when the enemy is the person who was responsible for the Black September disaster and the bloody mass slaughter of Palestinian people. The Iranian nation is well aware that if Husayn were one for fighting he would first try to win back Jerusalem and the occupied Jordanian territories. When faced with the question of fighting there, he resorts to futile measures; when he turns against us he shows his lion side.

He thinks that the Iranian nation is not aware of these facts. The Jordanian king's alliance with Saddam gives us strength, assures us of our correct interpretation of the situation, clarifies our rightful stance in defending our country and motivates us to fight harder now that there is a possibility of eliminating the real enemies of Islam and the region.

If the war ends with this result it will be a great blessing. That is, if we knew that our war would end with a battle against Jordan we would have entered this war with more speed and enthusiasm. Unfortunately, Jordan is far away from us and is not our neighbor, but it has now volunteered to join the war fronts which were opened by its friends.

Of course, this is not a new development. Even before the war and ever since the beginning of the war Jordan was a part of the conspiracy against Iran. It had prepared the port of 'Aqaba beforehand and had put it at the disposal of Arabs. It would have already sent its volunteers to the war, if there were any; the Arab world would have sent their volunteers here, too, if they had any. One Iranian province could resist all their volunteers.

This does not present a military problem for us. As to the propaganda campaigns, I would like to say that it is an honor for us, especially since we have just formed the Golan battalion from Iraqi refugee volunteers and those POW's who have repented in order to send them to Golan Heights. Under these circumstances, the counterrevolution takes Iraqi deportees as hostage, some of them are martyred in captivity and others are left in the hands of the counterrevolution. These incidents show Iran's rightful stance and the weakness and despair of Islam's enemies. We hope that in future our stance will be even more correct and will result in the victory of right and virtue over wrong. Peace be upon you. [end recording]

'Azizi on Jordanian Force

LD301844 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Jan 82

[Central News Unit correspondent's telephone interview with Deputy Foreign Minister Ahmad 'Azizi -- recorded; announced as being granted "this evening"]

[Excerpt] [Question] The king of Jordan has announced in a television program that he is creating special forces under his command to fight the Islamic Republic of Iran and to help Saddam. The announcement has had (?wide repercussions) throughout the world. As deputy foreign minister, what do you think is the reason behind this move?

[Answer] Since the beginning of this imposed war, the Jordanian regime has consistently supported Saddam against the Islamic Republic of Iran. However, this move is an open declaration of war by Jordan against Iran. It is also tantamount to turning its back on the world Muslims' common enemy, Israel. Fortunately, this is a move which goes a long way in revealing the nature of this puppet and mercenary regime; it will also help to shake its foundations, as well as the foundations of similar reactionary regimes.

As you are aware, a number of Muslim Arab countries and [word indistinct] such as Syria and Libya, have already condemned the move and have said that instead of directing their troops and equipment against the Islamic Republic of Iran, Muslims and Arabs should use them against the common enemy, Israel, especially during these crucial periods.

Generally speaking, America's objective, going by its past actions, is to tighten Iran's blockade, increase pressure on Iran and to come as close as possible to the Islamic Republic's borders. Enjoying America's support, this new move by Jordan is another strategic move within this context, which is being pursued by certain reactionary Arab regimes.

We warn the fair-minded world public opinion about the consequences of this interference; while reiterating and stressing the consistent stand of the Islamic Republic in maintaining peace and tranquillity in the region, we declare once again that in Iran, the United States and its allies are facing a divine revolution. The glorious Islamic revolution has already shown that superpowers' troops and weapons are not capable of confronting the Islamic revolution of Iran. America and its allies would do better to realize this fact as soon as possible and abandon their plots. Thank you.

Tabataba'i on Call

NC301119 Paris AFP in English 1105 GMT 30 Jan 82

[Text] Tehran, 30 Jan (AFP) -- Iran will stand up to the "Jordanian aggressor" as it has resisted Iraq, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said today in the first official response to Jordan's decision to enter the 16-month-old war on the Iraqi side.

The spokesman, 'Alavi Tabataba'i, told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE by telephone that "when the Iraqi regime falls, which is something that is bound to happen, the Jordanian regime will be overthrown by its own people."

Mr Tabataba'i asked why King Husayn was sending troops against another Islamic nation instead of fighting against "Zionism, which exists on his own border".

The Iranian media today practically ignored King Husayn's announcement. The English language Tehran TIMES announced in a subtitle that Jordan had "declared war on Iran" while Radio Tehran merely referred to Libya's condemnation of Jordanian intervention.

King Husayn, citing Arab resolutions on mutual defence, announced Thursday that he would personally command a contingent of Jordanian volunteers to fight alongside Iraq. Jordan already provides logistical support to the Iraqis.

Al-Qadhdhafi Attacks Call

LD300946 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 30 Jan 82

[Text] Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has attacked King Husayn's call for the dispatch of volunteers to protect Iraq in its war against Iran. Al-Qadhdhafi said that he expected King Husayn to call for volunteers to liberate occupied Palestine and Jerusalem which are right next door to King Husayn, and not to be sent to fight against Iran.

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi told the Libyan news agency that according to our analysis of the Arab situation the United States has fulfilled its aspiration and is guiding the situation toward serving its interests and Zionist goals. He added that the Arab countries that are being threatened by the regime occupying Jerusalem have not yet recognized their true enemy. Emphasizing the point that he is against the occupation of Iranian soil by Iraq, Al-Qadhdhafi stressed that the correct course would be to direct Arab fire at the Zionist enemy.

Tehran Commentary

GF310609 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 30 Jan 82

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The shah of Jordan did not say anything new in his recent statement. His forces have been stationed in the Saddamist regime's camps for 1 year. These forces have been charged with guarding military positions and border posts because of their low morale, which has precluded their being dispatched to the warfront. The shah of Jordan made this statement only to announce the presence of these forces and to dispatch new forces.

The question is: Why did Shah Husayn make this statement at this particular time? In answering this question, we must review past events, including the shah of Jordan's recent visit to Baghdad, which was interrupted by the assistant U.S. secretary of state's visit to Amman and then resumed and which included many Gulf regimes.

The assistant U.S. secretary of state's visit to Amman coincided with the Husayn-Saddam talks to give more U.S. support to the plan King Husayn is currently carrying out on behalf of the superpowers, which are very worried over the fate awaiting the Iraqi regime at the hand of the Islamic forces. After these circles discovered -- 17 months into the Saddam regime's war -- that Iran's submission -- which they used to wish for -- was impossible and that there was no other way for them other than direct confrontation with the Islamic Republic, they started to act with this discovery in mind. These circles began to consider the Saddamist issue their main issue. This was made clear by the intensive moves their agent Shah Husayn carried out in the region, which culminated yesterday in his call on agent regimes in the region to assist the Saddamist regime and his announcement that he will dispatch his troops to fight on the aggressors' side. This announcement came after his fruitful talks with the leaders of the reactionary column and after his meeting with Mr Haig's assistant.

It seems that this is not the end of this plot. The shah of Jordan will be compensated for his commendable efforts and his incessant attempts to protect Saddam's regime. This compensation will, of course, be Jordan's major role in resolving the Palestinian (?question). This is the role which Shah Husayn and imperialism have aspired for.

That is why Husayn's talks with reactionary regimes and the Iraqi regime concentrated on a bargain and on the price to support the Saddamist regime and Jordanian role in the Palestinian question. Both issues nowadays constitute the axis of the superpowers' policy. France, for example, chose to bargain with the Saddamist stand on the Palestinian issue to the advantage of the Zionist entity. This stand was made clear by Iraq's support for Saudi Arabia's plan and its approval of the Jordanian option. In return for this bargain, France paid Iraq well -- Mirage aircraft and various military materiel. On this basis, the superpowers drew up their policy in the region and built their relations to support any regime that makes certain efforts to the benefit of the Zionist enemy.

Thus, it becomes undoubtedly clear that the current tendency to support Saddam's regime is opposed to the Palestinian cause. In fact, Saddam's regime was founded in order to bargain over this holy cause. If we go back to the period between the June 1967 crisis and the Ba'thist coup -- which is no more than 13 months in duration -- we find that during this period imperialism sought to create an event to absorb the anger that overwhelmed the Islamic world in the aftermath of the sinister crisis. Therefore, imperialism staged its sinister coup on 17 July 1968, claiming that that event was a practical response to that crisis by nature of its being the first event to take place in the aftermath of the crisis. From the outset, Saddam's regime was the major party to bargain with the Palestinian cause -- and this still continues today.

By recalling the stands of Saddam's regime on the Palestinian cause throughout its bleak, tyrannical rule we can discover confirmation of this flagrant fact. The new U.S.-Jordanian deal is but a main link in the chain of this kind of bargaining to which the U.S. administration has grown accustomed.

Husayn's new announcement is an assurance to Saddam and his clique that someone is defending them so that they can continue their tyrannical aggression [words indistinct]. For these reasons, the timing of the Jordanian announcement was set to suit the political situation of the region and the psychological state of mind of Saddam's regime and to frighten the unyielding Islamic stand with the delusion that soldiers are coming from all directions to fight against the Islamic Republic.

However, the stand of the republic is as the holy verse says: "Those to whom men said 'People have mustered against you, therefore, fear them,' have only increased their faith, and they said 'Sufficient for us is God and an excellent guardian is He.' So they returned with a mighty favor from God and a great bounty, while no evil touched them; and they followed the pleasure of God; God is the Lord of greaty bounty." [Koranic verse]

BATTALION FORMED TO AID SYRIA IN FIGHTING ISRAEL

LD311044 Tehran IRNA in English 0944 GMT 31 Jan 82

[Text] Tehran, 30 Jan (IRNA) -- The meeting tonight was headed by President Khamene'i and included Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative in the SDC [Supreme Defense Council]; Prime Minister Musavi; Brigadier General Zahirnezhad, the head of Joint Staff; Mohsen Reza'i, the commander of the Islamic revolutionary guards (IRGC); Colonel Salimi, minister of defense; and Mr Shasa'i, the deputy commander of the IRGC; Ahmad 'Azizi, the deputy foreign minister; and Dr Kamal Gharazi, the head of IRNA.

At the end of the meeting, Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani said concerning the recent deportation of Iraqis and abandoning them in the cold mountainous area in the border area west of Iran, that these actions had no other interpretation than the Iraqi regime's helpless situation and he expressed surprise of how Iraqi soldiers in the fronts could tolerate witnessing such treatment with their countrymen.

Questioned to comment on recent announcement by King Husayn to form a volunteer force to fight the Islamic Republic alongside Iraqis, Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani said that it was clear that countries such as Jordanian port of 'Aqaba as well as roads and facilities in that country were at the disposal of the Iraqi regime. What these countries intended was "to give spirit to Iraqi soldiers who had lost their morale in the war fronts," by their propaganda, he said, adding that Iran would welcome the joining of Jordan in the war since "it seemed that King Husayn is one person who is worthy of an overthrow before Saddam."

The imam's representative in the SDC then said that Jordan's propaganda campaign of creating such a force would have an opposite result and would make all revolutionary forces in the world more favourable towards Iran. "If King Husayn truly had the guts to go to war... why does not he war with Israel who has usurped his own land?," Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani said, adding that in spite of all, King Husayn was the murderer of revolutionaries in Black September when he martyred so many of the Palestinian forces. Nevertheless, he further added, "this matter is a positive transition in the war." Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani then gave more details on the formation of the "Golan Battalion" and said that recently many requests had come from Muslim Iraqi POWs to compensate for their fighting with Iran, and from Muslim Iraqi exiles in Iran, to get organised to fight infidelity.

"We thought that since we were powerful enough in our own fronts, we had no need for this force," he said and added that in this meeting the Joint Staff was given permission to form a battalion of Iraqi POWs and exiles and prepare them to be dispatched to the borders with the Zionist regime. The name of the battalion was to be "Golan Battalion" which was related to the recent usurpation of the Golan Heights by the Zionists. He said that the Syrian Government was to command the force and "to put them to work wherever they (the Syrians) wanted". He said that orders were given so that from tomorrow this matter would be followed up but he added that it was up to Syria as to when it was inclined to use the force.

Reza'i on Battalion

GF010956 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 1 Feb 82

[Text] Mohsen Reza'i, commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, has announced the formation of a battalion called the Golan Battalion, which consists of refugees, Iraqi POW's and guards. The regiment will go to the Golan as soon as possible to fight the Zionist entity.

Reza'i stated that refugees and Iraqi POW's have volunteered to join this battalion and added that had the Iraqi regime sent its troops to fight the Zionist entity instead of fighting Iranian troops, the issue of the Zionist entity would have been resolved a long time ago.

The commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps has expressed the hope that the Golan Battalion will be a positive step in the war of the Muslims against the Zionists and will lead to the liberation of Palestine.

NABAVI ON IMPLEMENTATION OF ALGIERS AGREEMENT

LD311430 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 31 Jan 82

[Excerpts] A correspondent for the Central News Unit has sent a report on the news conference held by Mr Behzad Nabavi, minister of state for executive affairs, supervisor of the state economic mobilization headquarters and head of the office coordinating the Algerian declaration. Mr Nabavi answered journalists' questions about the functions and the future of the economic mobilization headquarters, Iran's and America's lawsuits before the court in The Hague and U.S. violations of the Algerian declaration.

Regarding hoarding, the shortage of commodities, the distribution of commodities, solving the present difficulties and supplying what people need, the minister of state said: The government and the economic mobilization headquarters, which is not separate from the government, have always tried to distribute essential items even if they are scarce, in a fair manner, cheaply and equitably among everybody at fixed prices because these goods are a key factor in family expenditures and essential.

As to hoarding I must say that this problem will not be solved by fining hoarders. There must be more positive methods. We are trying to find a more fundamental solution; but we will not allow the prices of goods now under control to go up any higher.

Regarding a decrease in the gasoline ration, he said: The consumption of gasoline at the rate of 60 liters per person went on for a while, but because we do not import gasoline from abroad our resources decreased and therefore we decreased the ration. Of course, this will continue until resources and production increase. When this happens, the ration will go up again.

As to the rice issue and attendant problems, Nabavi said: This plan was (?started) and put into practice with important aims. We had no problems regarding the purchase of rice from farmers and we had been successful; but we have been less successful in distributing it because of the hoarding of last year's rice by some merchants.

At present, the Commerce Ministry is trying to eliminate the difficulties facing distribution. Regarding this plan, I should also say that about 60 percent of the farmers are satisfied with the purchase prices; but it is interesting that more than 80 percent of them agree to the continuation of the plan for the reasons given by the state and view it as help to the government under special circumstances. This makes us happy.

The minister of state and the head of the office coordinating the Algerian declaration, regarding the implementation of the declaration and fulfilling the undertakings, said: America has committed numerous violations which have been raised by Iran in arbitration and will be dealt with out of turn. We have received $4 billion of (?the frozen assets). We have paid $3.5-4 billion on loans borrowed by the former regime. There is $1 billion in Algeria's account at The Hague court and $1.5 billion has been deposited in Algeria's account in London, which is a matter of dispute between us and America; the matter is being investigated.

He said: Although the court's verdict is not clear, we are sure that if the court remains neutral we will be successful, because when we compare the lawsuits we realize that we are more likely to be right.

Regarding the Algerian declaration, and how successful the treaty has been, Nabavi said: Well, the government has been spectacularly successful in implementing the Algerian declaration. About 1,500 to 1,600 lawsuits against the United States have been submitted to the arbitration court. The Americans couldn't imagine this; in their newspapers they wrote that America had submitted 3,500 lawsuits whereas Iran had only submitted a few.

I have the good news for our beloved, militant and Muslim compatriots that in this short period, which is only 4 months, we have managed to submit 1,600 lawsuits amounting to about $32 million against the United States to the court. Our opponent, who has many more lawsuits than we have, who already has about 3,500 to 3,600 lawsuits, has demanded a total of $8 billion. This is unbelievable and even [words indistinct]; you witnessed that they first reported that Iran had only a few lawsuits, but I have heard that one of the Western newspapers, on hearing about so many lawsuits by Iran, said that the declaration is being implemented in Iran by the Iranians; because up to the last day they did not understand that so many lawsuits would be filed against them. [sentence as heard]

KHOMEYNI ASKS ENVOYS TO DEFEND ISLAMIC REVOLUTION

LD301308 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Jan 82

[Speech by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni on 30 January to the heads of delegations travelling abroad to participate in festivities marking the revolution anniversary; place not given -- read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. You gentlemen know -- and no elucidation is needed -- that the Islamic Republic is among the oppressed nations of the world. The imperialist media tell as many lies as they want. Some radios change their technique of disseminating lies every few days, and when they tire of hurling obscenities and insults or when they guess that their listeners are weary, they begin to make up letters, the contents of which are all the same. Not a single radio exists that would compare Iran's Islamic revolution with other revolutions. We only want them to compare it, not to exaggerate what it is.

The Islamic Republic, after its victory, gave everybody, from any group, a chance to do whatever he wished and to publish any newspaper. But you saw how some people acted. They took up arms, attacked the people and officially declared an uprising against Islam. Today they disseminate propaganda to the effect that only 6-10 percent of the people support the Islamic Republic.

All their hopes and aspirations center on the north, and they believe that the north is 100-percent against the Islamic Republic. Consequently, they rallied all their forces and launched a barbarous, surprise attack on the city of Amol in the hopes that the people were with them, that Amol could be conquered and that other cities could be conquered from there. But you saw what happened. The people rose, struggled against them and hit them so hard that they could not continue, not even for a few hours. The peoples' opposition is important. We must thank the city of Amol and its selfless people. We have heard with the greatest regret that a number of people have been martyred, but with their martyrdom they have proved to the counterrevolutionaries that their hopes and confidence in the brave, Muslim people of Amol were misplaced. So now, how do you now wish to come to Qom or Tehran?

The mass media of our enemy passed over this incident and said nothing. Anything that is advantageous to us is passed over in silence, but when something goes against us, they exaggerate the situation and report it. We must realize that while we wish to be free, there are countries that are effective in the world arena that oppose us. For this very reason we should think of ourselves. In other words we should not sit around and listen to what our enemies say and see whether they praise us or not or whether they report the facts accurately or not. We should start moving and should acquaint the world with our revolution. Now is a good opportunity.

I hope that with the blessings of God you will be granted success. You should know that the people are with us. Just as we did not sit around waiting for someone to come to our assistance, now, too, we should not expect others to disseminate propaganda in our interest. Everyone knows that millions of people have been killed in other revolutions and that other people have not been allowed to do anything.

Can anyone name a country in which people put up with armed uprisings? The moment they suspect anything, they take steps to arrest people. But when the question of overthrowing a regime comes up and when the question of trampling underfoot the blood of the martyrs is involved, one can no longer stand idly by.

The Islamic Republic has meted out appropriate punishment only to those people who have killed someone or perpetrated acts punishable by execution under Islam. This punishment is useful for safeguarding society. These are cancerous tumors that should be removed in order to maintain the health of society. Those who are in prison have been subjected to reform, and I have always recommended that they should be so treated. When you go abroad such subjects might come up, so defend Islam. In the final analysis we ourselves should protect our good name, because no one will come along to defend us.

The Ministry of National Guidance should be active. Gentlemen, make use of this opportunity to inform the world of our situation. The people do not know a great deal. Talk to them. Go among the people and make speeches. You should remember that you should travel abroad only once a year. You grasp every opportunity to make such visits. I hope that you will return with success.

Peace and God's mercy and blessings be upon you.

VELAYATI PREVIEWS GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION

LD301210 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Jan 82

[Interview with Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati prior to his departure for UN General Assembly session in New York -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Mr Velayati, would you please tell us about the purpose of your (?trip) to the United Nations?

[Answer] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Our aim in participating in the extraordinary session of the UN General Assembly, which is being held at Syria's request following America's veto, is to use the opportunity for the Islamic Republic of Iran to announce its actual position to the people of the world as regards aggressive Israel; in view of the fact that confrontation of the government occupying Palestine is one of the strategic principles of religious policies, we take every opportunity in the world to join in this confrontation.

[question indistinct]

[Answer] God willing, we shall have talks. Naturally such talks will be about the aggressive nature of Israel and its main supporter, America.

[question indistinct]

[Answer] In view of the fact that in the UN General Assembly no country has any special rights and that the majority of UN member countries are opposed to Israel's aggressive nature, I think this will be a useful session and, God willing, a resolution will be approved against Israel and America.

[question indistinct]

[Answer] Yes, King Husayn's nature was known to our people years ago in view of his relations with the shah, the gendarme of the region, and his recent support for Iraq's aggression was not very surprising. Nevertheless, such acts help to expose the reactionary regimes of the region more than ever before.

Departs for New York

LD300954 Tehran IRNA in English 0907 GMT 30 Jan 82

[Text] Tehran, 30 Jan (IRNA) -- Iranian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati left Tehran for New York at 11:00 this morning to attend the extraordinary session of the General Assembly of the United Nations to be held on the request of Syria to study the regime occupying Jerusalem's illegal annexation of the Golan Heights.

Dr Velayati was invited to participate at the session by the Islamic Conference, the Syrian Foreign Ministry and the Non-aligned Movement. The director general of political affairs of the Foreign Ministry, Mohammad Hoseyn Lavasani, is accompanying Dr Velayati.

At the airport the foreign minister was seen off by several officials of the Foreign Ministry.

ARMED FORCES JOINT STAFF COMMUNIQUES 774-776

774: 29 Jan Report

LD291750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Jan 82

[Communique 774 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The brave combatants of Islam, fulfilling their holy pledge, are bravely standing on the battlefronts firmer than ever and, carrying their great message, are helping beloved Islam with their clean blood.

In the past 24 hours, the struggle of our forces against the enemy was spectacular and exchanges of fire continued on most of the southern fronts of the country. Their results in various areas were as follows:

On the Shush and Reqabiyeh fronts, 10 enemy trenches and foxholes, 1 mortar, 1 ammunition tent and 1 observation post were destroyed and 20 of the aggressors were killed or wounded.

In the areas of Dasht-e 'Abbas and 'Eyn Khosh, our forces, destroying one slit trench and one vehicle, killed four enemy servicemen. In the Abadan area, as a result of the artillery fire of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the aggressors' positions, 11 enemy trenches and foxholes, 1 observation post, 2 ammunition dumps and 1 assembly building were set on fire and destroyed. The enemy's known losses in this region are at least six killed or wounded.

As a result of fire by the gendarmerie units, losses and casualties were inflicted on the enemy forces based in Al-Faw.

Yesterday the enemy's heavy-weapon fire on the residential areas in Abadan resulted in the destruction of several residential units. Several of our resisting compatriots were martyred or wounded.

In the western areas of operations, as a result of our fire on the enemy's infantry, mortar and artillery positions, the enemy's fire was silenced and losses and casualties were inflicted on Saddam's aggressive army.

In the Meymak region, 2 tanks, 1 106-mm gun and a quantity of the enemy's ammunition were destroyed.

In the Gilan-e Gharb region, exchanges of fire are continuing and on one of the fronts in this area two enemy observation posts and five trenches were destroyed.

In the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area, five enemy trenches, together with their crews, a number of vehicles and a quantity of ammunition and supply items, were destroyed by the fire of our ground forces.

775: 30 Jan Report

LD301744 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 30 Jan 82

[Communique 775 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In the name of God. The outcome of yesterday's battle and the efforts rendered by the self-sacrificing forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran to crush the forces of the aggressor Iraqi Army are hereby brought to the attention of our dear compatriots.

During the course of yesterday's battle and the exchanges of fire on the western front, the ground forces' combatants and other armed forces' self-sacrificers moved from their defensive positions, opened fire on the enemy positions and inflicted some losses and casualties. On the Meymak front, our forces destroyed one enemy motorized column. During these operations, 4 enemy trucks were completely destroyed and 10 Iraqi personnel were killed. On the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Gilan-e Gharb fronts, our forces, while destroying a number of enemy foxholes and trenches, inflicted considerable casualties on the Iraqi personnel.

On the southern fronts yesterday the battle continued between our able forces and the Iraqi Armed Forces with exchanges of artillery and heavy-weapon fire. On the Khuninshahr front, the valiants of the navy opened fire on the Saddamists' positions and while destroying some of the enemy's positions, emplacements and observation posts, killed or injured a number of enemy forces.

Yesterday a number of the Iraqi Armed Forces' aggressor airplanes attempted to violate the airspace of some border cities in the war zone but were driven off as a result of fire mounted by the air defense units.

During the battle on 26 and 27 January, 14 self-sacrificers of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran gave their lives for our Islamic homeland of Iran. Long live their soul and their path.

776: 31 Jan Report

LD311804 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 31 Jan 82

[Communique 776 of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. Glory be to the anniversary of the entry of the leader of the Islamic revolution into the land of revolution.

Honorable and Muslim nation of Iran: Your soldier brothers, these guardians of eternal sagas of bravery and zeal, whose pure blood is the guarantor of the steady growth of the tree of the Islamic revolution and the territorial integrity of the dear Iran, are striving day and night -- all ready to sacrifice their lives -- for the realization of their holy aims. The following is a summary of the activities of the self-sacrificers of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran over the past 24 hours against the aggressive enemy:

Battles and exchanges of artillery fire continued on most of the western fronts. The intensity of fire in the Dar Ballut and Tang-e Hajiyan sectors and in Bazi Deraz and Sonboleh was the most intense in the area.

On the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab fronts, the combatants of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran brought enemy infantry and observation posts under fire, inflicting considerable losses and casualties on them.

In the Gilan-e Gharb sector, a number of enemy infantry bunkers were destroyed and at least six Iraqi soldiers were killed.

In the Meymak, Salehabad and Sumar sectors, artillery fire killed a number of Iraqi forces, restrained enemy troop movements and activities and destroyed a number of their weapons explacements.

On the southern fronts, exchanges of fire continued sporadically. The intensity of fire on the Shush and Reqabiyeh fronts was greater than that on any of the other southern fronts. In the Abadan sector, the artillery fire of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran impeded enemy movements and trench digging and inflicted casualties on the aggressors.

Enemy aircraft bombed Abadan's residential areas yesterday afternoon, destroying a number of houses and killing a number of our compatriots.

The brave combatants of the Navy of the Islamic Republic of Iran destroyed two enemy trenches and a number of observation posts in the Abadan and Khorramshahr operational sectors and killed or wounded a number of enemy personnel.

During the past 24 hours, Iraqi planes attacked a number of operational sectors in the south and west of the country, but were confronted with concentrated fire by our antiaircraft units and fled.

During a battle on 29 January, seven of the faithful (?defenders) of Islam were martyred: Five were from the ground forces and two from the gendarmerie. May their well-known names remain dear.